one Island

The community magazine for the Isle of Wight

Issue 32
June 2011

A flag waving welcome from the Isle of Wight

NatWest Island Games 2011

Also inside:
Major projects energise the Island's economy

ISLE of WIGHT COUNCIL

WELCOME

June edition of *One Island* magazine

Welcome to the June issue of *One Island* magazine. In this edition we focus on a series of major council projects which are helping to energise the Island's economy:

- The 846-home Pan Meadows housing project.
- The £260 million highway's private finance initiative.
- The extensive scheme of new buildings, extensions and improvements at Island school sites.

We also take a look at other significant projects – particularly in the renewable energy sector – where the council is working to promote Island investment and jobs.

And over the next week, thousands of visitors linked to the NatWest Island Games 2011 will bring an exciting range of sporting action to the Island's shores – as well as, of course, a welcome boost to the local economy.

Advertising in One Island

More than 43,000 copies of *One Island* are distributed throughout the Island for each edition.

The magazine is published as an insert in the Isle of Wight County Press – with additional copies available in libraries, post offices, help centres, doctors' surgeries and other key locations.

If you would like to advertise in *One Island*, please contact us for more information and a copy of our rate card: Tel: 823351; Email: *oneisland@iow.gov.uk*

You can also download the rate card from *iwight.com*

How to contact us

If you have community news to share with other readers, we would like to hear from you. We also welcome your letters. You can contact us by post, email or telephone.

Post One Island, Resident Information and Consultation Unit, County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD

Email OneIsland@iow.gov.uk

Telephone 823105

USEFUL CONTACTS

Isle of Wight Council, County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD
Fax: 823333
Email: customer.services@iow.gov.uk
Website: www.iwight.com

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(Adult duty, emergency)	534227
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Ryde	566011
Headquarters	520600
Housing	823040

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Newport Help Centre

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County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD
Mon to Thur: 8.30am to 5pm
Fri: 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Ryde Help Centre

Tel: 812678
Ryde Library, 101 George Street, Ryde PO33 2JE. Mon, Tues, Fri.

Sandown Help Centre

Council offices, Broadway, Sandown PO36 9EA.

West Wight Help Centre

Tel: 756140
Freshwater Library, 41 School Green Road, Freshwater PO40 9AP. Tues only.

Please ring 821000 to confirm opening times.

PARTNER CONTACTS

NHS Isle of Wight
Tel: (01983) 524081
Police
Tel: 0845 45 45 45
Rural Community Council
Tel: (01983) 524058

COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings are in public at County Hall. Call 823200 24 hours before a meeting to ensure it is going ahead.

Council
(council chamber)
20 July (6pm)
21 September (6pm)

Cabinet
(committee room one)
16 August (6pm)
4 October (6pm)

Planning Committee
(council chamber)
28 June (4pm)
2 August (4pm)
30 August (4pm)
27 September (4pm)

Audit Committee
(committee room one)
29 June (6pm)
29 September (6pm)

Licensing and General Purposes Committee
(committee room one)
25 July (4pm)
12 September (4pm)

Ethical Standards Committee
(committee room one)
4 July (6pm)
3 October (6pm)

Employment Committee
(committee room one)
5 September (10am)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(committee room one)
28 July (5pm)

Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel
(committee room one)
14 September (5pm)

Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel
(committee room one)
28 September (5pm)

Health and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel
(committee room one)
7 September (6pm)

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Cover picture: Young Islander, Fern from Sandown, flies the flag in her opening ceremony costume for the 2011 NatWest Island Games (*see page 9*)

One Island is a community magazine produced by the Isle of Wight Council with its key public sector partners – NHS Isle of Wight, Isle of Wight Police (Hampshire Constabulary) and the Isle of Wight Rural Community Council. Working together, we are striving to create an Island that is *safe and well kept*; *healthy and supportive*; *inspiring*; and *thriving*.

ISLE of WIGHT COUNCIL

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NHS Isle of Wight

ISLE OF WIGHT Rural Community Council

This magazine is available on request as an audiotape, in large print, in Braille, in other languages and online at www.iwight.com For further details, please contact One Island on 823105.

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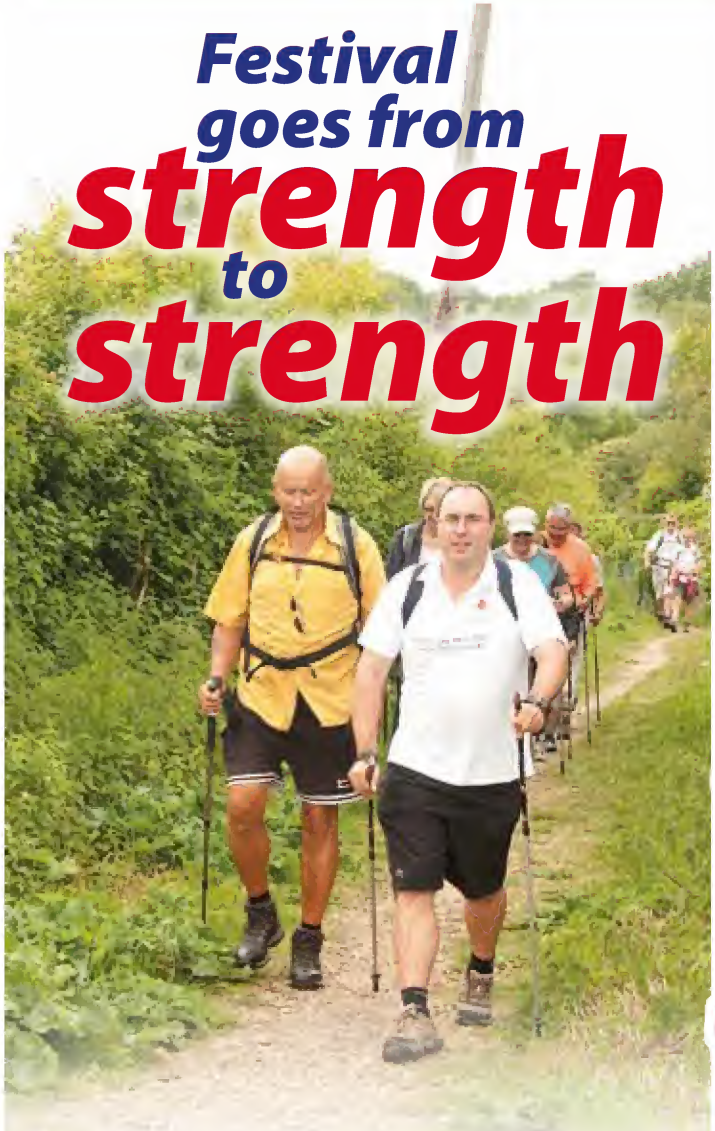
Festival goes from strength to strength



Thousands of people took to the Island's footpaths and byways last month, once again ensuring the 16-day Isle of Wight Walking Festival was a big success.

This year saw the 13th staging of the award-winning annual festival, the biggest event of its kind in the UK.

The festival featured more than 300 walks across a whole range of themes, from the epic 72-mile coastal path walk to the popular speed-dating walk.

One walker from Canterbury, who emailed the council to thank it for organising the festival, said she and her husband walked for 14 of the 16 days, clocking up 150 miles.

"All the leaders of the walks were informative and experienced. The walks took us through lovely countryside with wide views of the mainland, the Solent and the ocean. The weather was fantastic. We will be back next year!"

Don't miss autumn walking weekend

For all keen walkers there is more to come – as this October will see the fourth annual autumn walking weekend on the Island.

The walking weekend takes place from 21 to 24 October, with the full programme of walks available from August.

• You can view the walks online at *www.isleofwight walkingfestival.co.uk*

New council chairman

Councillor David Williams has been elected as the council's new chairman for 2011/2012.

Councillor Williams, member for Shanklin Central, replaces Councillor Ian Stephens, who has completed his term of office.

The council chairman is its civic head and chairs meetings of the full council. The position is non-political, and as well as being responsible for the council's civic affairs, the role includes promoting public involvement in the council's activities.

Decision day

for waste and recycling collection changes

More than 800 responses were received to the recent public consultation on changing the Island's waste collection service to boost recycling.

The responses were collated for presentation to a meeting of the council's cabinet to consider the options for changes to the service.

Details of the cabinet's decision and the plan for implementation of any changes will be available on the *iwight.com* website.

August bank holiday refuse collection

Refuse normally collected on	Will be collected on
Mon 29 August	Tues 30 August
Tues 30 August	Wed 31 August
Wed 31 August	Thur 1 September
Thur 1 September	Fri 2 September
Fri 2 September	Sat 3 September

The week starting Monday 29 August is **B week** for recycling. Recycling collections will also be one day late.

Remember that the recycling box is a fortnightly collection and must be kerbside by 7am. If you are not sure of your week of collection please use any of the contact details given below:

- Isle of Wight Council, tel: 823777, website: *www.iwight.com/waste*
- Island Waste Services, tel: 821234, website: *www.islandwaste.co.uk*

Prosecution message for harbour divers

A strong message has gone out to anyone who dives into or swims in Ryde Harbour – you will risk prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000.

The message is intended to protect people from the dangers, including serious injury from jumping or diving ('tombstoning') into the harbour.

CCTV cameras will spot anyone who defies a bylaw which has banned swimming and linked activities in the harbour since 2000.

There are clear warning signs around the harbour and the council has the power to prosecute those who defy the bylaw. A PA system at the harbour is also used to provide warnings.

The council will work with the police to identify any offenders.

"Clearly the intention of this bylaw and strict action is to protect people from injury. Jumping from a height of up to four metres off the harbour wall into shallow water can have serious consequences," said the council's environment director, Stuart Love.

There is only two metres of water in the harbour at high tide and at other times under a metre of seawater or less. There is chalk and rock in some places beneath the water.

The height of summer is the worst time for 'tombstoning', often when teenage schoolchildren are on their summer holidays.

Parents are being reminded of the dangers to their children, and the warning message is also being sent out to schools.

Young Islanders celebrate medal success

Pictured: Carla Roberts proudly wears the bronze medal she won in the girls' 1500 metres

Sixteen young athletes from the Isle of Wight returned with four medals from a successful trip to the annual World Island Youth Games in Sicily.

All four medals came from the athletics team, although several personal bests were also set by members of the swimming team.

The medal winners were:

- Carla Roberts (bronze) in the girls' 1500 metres;
- Annabelle Marsh, Polly Hopper, Holly Newton and Taylor Canning (silver) in the girls' 4 x 100 metres relay;
- Tom Newnham (silver) in the 3000 metres;
- Polly Hopper (bronze) in the girls' 200 metres.

Team manager, Lee Matthews, said: "This year's field was very tough, especially as our team were missing several older athletes due to clashes with exams. This means that winning four medals is even more impressive and puts the team in good stead for future years."

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Island Insulation Scheme

The Island Insulation Scheme is a home insulation scheme offering loft and cavity wall insulation to local residents who own their own home or rent from a private landlord. It is supported by the Isle of Wight Council.

ISLE of WIGHT COUNCIL

[1]The £340 saving over a one year period is made up from increasing your loft insulation from 50mm (about 2 inches) to between 250mm and 270mm (about 10 to 11 inches) and installing cavity wall insulation. The cost saving is approximate, is provided for illustrative purposes only and is based on a 1940s gas heated semi-detached house with three bedrooms. Savings assume a gas price of 3.158p/kWh using a 10 year old gas boiler. Your individual saving will vary according to the type and age of your house, the type and age of your boiler, the fuels you use in your home and whether or not you choose to take increased warmth following the installation of the insulation measures.

Knowing who to turn to

Island teenagers and their parents are being reminded of the special advice and help available for youngsters who may be experiencing an abusive teenage relationship.

Data from the British Crime Survey has shown that girls aged 16 to 19 are now the group most at risk of domestic abuse.

Abuse in teenage relationships is not always about physical violence – it can include threats, emotional abuse, isolation from friends and family, and controlling behaviour.

Advice on the signs that something may be wrong, how parents can help, and how to get support, are available from a range of organisations and websites.

These include:

- *thisisabuse.direct.gov.uk*;
- *www.thehideout.org.uk*;
- and a national charity that works with and for parents, *www.parentlineplus.org.uk*

You can also visit *www.saferwight.org.uk* for more information.

Extra controls help protect conservation areas

The extension of conservation areas for Ryde, Ryde St John's, Shanklin, Sandown and Bembridge has been approved by the council.

The adoption of the amended areas follows a public consultation exercise in January.

Conservation areas have enhanced planning controls to help sustain the distinctive character of an area.

As part of the amended arrangements, the council has agreed to the removal of some permitted development rights for various properties – which means changes such as removing chimneys, changing windows or the erection of a porch, for example, will require planning permission.

This will help the council to guide changes in these sensitive cases.

The newly adopted documents can be viewed online at *www.iwight.com/conservation*

Key sites added to Local List

A number of key sites have been added to the Island's Local List – which seeks to protect local distinctiveness in the historic and built environment.

Additions were approved in May, and among them were properties on the former Royal Estate at Osborne.

These included: Six Cottages, Alverstone Road, Whippingham *(pictured above)* – built in 1859 following the construction of a new road across the estate; and Mount Cottages, built in 1904 in the Barton Estate style, possibly to an earlier design by Prince Albert.

The review panel also approved Woody Bay coastguard cottages and the old cottages in Coastguard Lane, Freshwater.

The next review panel meeting will be held in August – with nominations for further historic structures, parks, gardens and buildings for the list, to be received by 1 August.

For more information and to download a nomination form, please visit *www.iwight.com/locallist*

Worried about a child?

Most children enjoy happy childhood experiences within their own family, but unfortunately for some this is not always the case.

If you are concerned about a child or young person it's sometimes difficult to know what to do for the best or where to go for help. Rather than do nothing, it is important people report their genuine concerns.

If you are worried a child is being harmed or is at risk, please contact children's social care on 525790 (working hours) or 821105 (outside working hours). If you think a child is in immediate danger you can also contact the police using 999.

For more information you can visit *www.iwight.com/safeguarding*

Campaign to improve early detection

NHS Isle of Wight

A new campaign is taking place on the Island to improve the early awareness and diagnosis of bowel cancer.

The campaign is part of a combined project involving the Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth primary care trusts.

The research project involves investigating the occurrence of bowel cancer among the over 50s and the barriers to detecting the early stages of the illness. It will help develop effective interventions in areas with the highest levels of bowel cancer.

Early diagnosis can reduce the impact of bowel cancer and help effective treatment.

For more information about the project, which continues into July, you can visit: *www.csccn.nhs.uk/bowelcanceraware.html*

Symptoms

The symptoms of bowel (colorectal) cancer can be:

- a change in your normal bowel habit, lasting four weeks or more;
- bleeding from your rear or blood in your stools;
- unexplained extreme tiredness/weight loss;
- a pain or lump in your abdomen.

You may experience all, some or none of these symptoms. Remember most symptoms will not be bowel cancer. If you are worried, make an appointment with your GP.

www.actoncancer.info/bowel

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ISLE OF WIGHT 2011 NatWest Island Games XIV

All set for NatWest Island Games 2011

The time has arrived! More than 3,000 athletes and officials from 25 islands are on the Isle of Wight for the NatWest Island Games 2011. Here we look at the key events and highlights for the week ahead

It is one of the biggest sporting weeks the Isle of Wight has ever experienced. From Saturday 25 June to Friday 1 July venues across the Island will be playing host to competitors and supporters for one of the largest multi-sport events outside the Olympics and Commonwealth Games.

The International Island Games were established in the Isle of Man in 1985 and today include 25 member islands in, or associated with, the nine sovereign nations of Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UK plus the Caribbean.

The list of sports taking place during the games will be: archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, cycling, football, golf, sailing (including windsurfing), shooting, squash, swimming, table tennis, tennis and volleyball.

The games are being run by the Island Games Association (Isle of Wight), supported by the council, which is also a sponsor. Other supporters include: Wightlink, NHS Isle of Wight, Southern Vectis, Red Funnel, Hovertravel, Tourism South East, the Isle of Wight County Press and Isle of Wight Radio.

The action-packed week will culminate with a celebratory closing ceremony at Cowes on Friday (1 July).

Games' highlights

25 June – Opening ceremony, starting at Ryde (5pm).
26 June – Cycling Criterion in Ventnor town centre (1pm).
27 to 30 June – Athletics finals at Fairway, Sandown, and swimming finals at Medina Leisure Centre, Newport (evenings).
1 July – Football finals at Newport FC (men) and Cowes FC (women).
1 July – Closing ceremony parade, Cowes (7pm).

Don't miss the opening ceremony

The spectacular opening ceremony parade will wind its way through the streets of Ryde from 5pm on Saturday 25 June.

The choreographed procession will feature 1,500 young people performing historic and folkloric episodes from the history of the Isle of Wight, accompanied by the games' athletes.

- Residents of Ryde are advised to walk to the parade as car parking is limited. If you live outside Ryde, public transport is advised, and arrival before road closures from 4pm. Islandline will be running additional trains.
- A park and ride service will operate from Smallbrook Stadium to Ryde Esplanade, starting at 2pm, last departure at 4.45pm. Park and ride buses return to Smallbrook from Ryde bus station from 6.45pm to 10pm.
- The parade begins at Simeon Street at 5pm and will join the athletes at Dover Street at 5.25pm, reaching the Esplanade at 7pm.
- The formal opening of the games will start at 7.30pm (athletes only – no public due to space restrictions).
- Parade participants and the general public will have a chance to watch the formal opening on two large screens located at Simeon Street recreation ground where carnival entertainment and refreshments will be available. The Eastern Gardens on the Esplanade will also have a large screen.

For a parade route map and more information please visit: *www.natwestislandgames2011.co.uk* or *www.thecarnivallearningcentre.org*

Memorable medals

Isle of Wight Studio Glass Ltd at St Lawrence has crafted the 1,555 gold, silver and bronze medals *(pictured above)* for the games, together with 265 commemorative medals for officials.

To find out more about the games, together with details of the events, you can visit *www.natwestislandgames2011.co.uk*

Creating a vibrant community

The first 12 homes on the major Pan Meadows housing project at Newport are set to be occupied by the end of this month. Here we take a look at progress with one of the biggest housing developments the Island has ever seen

On the outskirts of Newport the pioneering Pan Meadows housing project has been visibly rising from the ground.

The aim of the council and its partners, Spectrum Housing Group and Barratt David Wilson (Southampton), is to create a vibrant residential community while generating social, environmental and economic benefits.

At the heart of the development is a sense of community partnership working – one of the underlying principles of the Pan Neighbourhood Partnership. The partnership, through its various projects has been energising the existing Pan community in readiness for the many new residents.

The Pan Meadows development will see the creation of 846 new homes, and the project brief for homebuilder Barratt Homes is about integrating the homes – each to a high design standard and environment-friendly specification – in an innovative way into the existing Pan community.

More than 250 of the homes will be affordable, and all will be let using a local lettings plan giving priority to Island residents.

The units in the project will vary in size from a 130-square metre four-bedroom, double balconied detached family home to a 50-square metre apartment. Thirty per cent of the units will be affordable housing.

All the new homes will receive their heat and hot water from a central biomass plant – a striking building, part of which will be underground with a roof topped in grass.

Director of community wellbeing and social care, Ian Anderson, said: "It will be a real landmark moment to see the first 12 new homes occupied. Of these, ten will be for affordable housing tenants and two for private sale. The next 19 homes after that will be ready for occupation by the end of July."

Pictured: The show homes at Pan Meadows are ready to view

Moving to Pan Meadows

Please use the contacts below if you are interested in moving to Pan Meadows:

- Private purchasers – visit *www.barratthomes.co.uk* or the on site Barratt Homes Sales Centre at Pan Meadows.
- Shared ownership – call Spectrum's home ownership team on 0800 3163316.
- Affordable housing tenants – visit *www.islandhomefinder.org.uk*

A helping of community spirit - and Island jobs

Above: Pan community warden Kim Roscoe brings a smile to the Isobel Centre café **Below:** Isobel Park provides a place for recreation and play for the whole community

All new residents will be able to benefit from the extensive planning and preparatory work that has gone in to creating an attractive enhanced community.

A ten hectare country park forming part of the development will soon be opening, together with many other features to enhance surroundings for the expanded community. Seven thousand trees have already been planted in the country park.

A concerted effort has also been made to use local businesses and local people for the project. So far 30 Island suppliers have been used and 118 Island residents are actively employed on the site – and Barratt Homes has provided the opportunity for 12 young people from the Island to take apprenticeships or national vocational qualifications in a range of skills.

Commissioning manager for the council, Peter Hopkins, said: "The Pan Management Company has been formed to manage the Pan Meadows site – with a commitment to ensure the development is integrated fully into the existing community, to manage and maintain the environment, and ensure it is a safe and clean place to live."

Vital to the Pan Meadows project has been the work of the Pan Neighbourhood Project over recent years.

Among the features to create a community attractive and engaging for new and existing residents is Isobel Park – a recreational and play area for the community, with robust and extensive play equipment for children. The park also features a floodlit, all weather multi-use games area – opened in 2008, and hugely popular with local residents.

And at the heart of the park is the Isobel Centre – a community centre run by the Pan Together community group and featuring a café, internet facilities and meeting/function areas.

New-look schools start to take shape

Pictured: Work is underway on a two-classroom extension for Nettlestone Primary School

Many school buildings and sites across the Island are set to be transformed over the coming months as new-build, extension and refurbishment work for the Island's new two-tier system gets fully underway.

The work forms part of the most intensive and forward-looking construction project ever undertaken in the education sector on the Island.

The council is working closely with its framework partner, Willmott Dixon Construction, on the project, which will create school sites fit to serve the Island's new primary and secondary school system.

Funding for the project is being provided centrally by the Department for Education.

The latest major developments include:

- planning approval for £6 million new build projects for Haylands Primary at Ryde (on the Swanmore playing field site) and St Francis Primary at Ventnor (on the Ventnor Middle site), with work due to start in July;
- work underway for a two classroom extension at Nettlestone Primary, due for completion by September for the start of the new school year;
- work due to start, subject to planning consent, to convert the gymnasium at Nodehill Middle into two new science laboratories for the new joint sixth form earmarked for the site, serving Carisbrooke and Medina secondary schools;
- refurbishment at middle school sites which are to close and become primary schools, including Solent Middle (Gurnard Primary), Somerton Middle (Love Lane Primary), Osborne Middle (Queensgate Primary), Mayfield Middle (Greenmount Primary), Forelands Middle (Bembridge

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WestQuay, Boat Show and Rock 'n' Roll

Cowes to Southampton return from only £7.80.*

Summer is a great time to visit Southampton. You can check out big-name stores like Hollister, Apple or John Lewis at WestQuay, bag yourself a bargain at IKEA, catch No.1 Rock 'n' Roll musical Grease at the Mayflower Theatre or the UK's largest Boat Show in September. The Red Jet takes just 25 minutes from Cowes and with a free bus direct to the city centre, it's perfect for a day out in Southampton.
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Southampton Events this Summer.

Southampton Mela Festival, 16 July
A celebration of modern and traditional Asian culture, with music, dance, workshops, stalls and a food court.

Grease at the Mayflower Theatre, 5 – 16 July
The No.1 Greatest Musical, GREASE, is back in Southampton for just two weeks only!

Evita at the Mayflower Theatre, 5 – 10 September
Featuring some of the most famous and inspiring stage music ever written, Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's extraordinary musical embarks on a spectacular national tour.

PSP Southampton Boat Show, 16 – 25 September
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Primary), Kitbridge Middle (Hunnyhill Primary), and Lake Middle (Broadlea Primary) – all due to be completed by Easter 2012;

- the installation of mobile classrooms at a range of primary sites, to cater for expanding school numbers – including Arreton, Carisbrooke and Northwood – in time for the September 2011 year.

Project director for the council, Janet Newton, said: "This is a wide-ranging, complex and exciting project that will create school sites suitable to serve our schoolchildren for generations to come.

"At the same time we have endeavoured to create contractor packages serving the project that promote the importance of Island investment and Island construction industry jobs.

"The overall schools' capital programme has a target of 25 per cent of the work being carried out by Island-based businesses, and our intention is to increase this. In fact, the first two batches of works packages include 100 per cent Island-based contractors."

To help and encourage smaller Island building firms to become involved in the range of projects, a second 'bidders' day' featuring workshops on the complexities of completing tenders, is due to be staged.

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Reaching for the sky

The new £30 million state of the art secondary school for Cowes has been visibly rising from the ground in recent months.

Groundworks for the Cowes One School Pathfinder project (on the existing Cowes High site) have been completed, the steel framework erected, and cladding work begun.

The council's partner for the project, Pihl (UK) Ltd, has been pushing ahead with the project, with the new school building due to open for the 2012 academic year.

The new school is set to provide a modern learning environment with extensive facilities, as well as an asset for the whole local community.

School changes timetable

August

All middle and high schools other than Christ the King, Newport will formally close.

September

The new secondary schools will open with their full 11 to 19 age range. Pupils who were in Year 5 stay on as Year 6 in their primary schools, completing their full four to 11 age range. Parents will receive application information for September 2012 admissions for the new reception year (primary) and rising Year 7 (secondary).

28 October

The closing date for all 2012 school admission applications.

March 2012

Parents will be informed of their child's school placement for September 2012.

More information

For more information about schools' reorganisation you can visit the 'Learning' section on *iwight.com*

For planning details about school building projects see 'planning online' on *iwight.com*

School Report online!

*An extended version of **School Report** is being created on the council's iwight.com website – supporting the regular slot in **One Island**. Keep an eye on the website for developments.*

Major highways' project forges ahead

Here we put the Island's £260 million highways' private investment initiative (PFI) under the spotlight – and set out the facts behind this important scheme...

The preparations for the Island's highways PFI project – a scheme that will see unprecedented investment to bring our road network up to standard – are continuing to schedule.

Three companies (or consortiums) have successfully submitted proposals for how they would undertake the work in the PFI – which will be the largest engineering project ever undertaken on the Island.

The submitted plans will now be studied by the council's PFI team – and following an appraisal process, one of the three bidders could be deselected.

The complex selection procedure, set down by government, will culminate in the announcement of a preferred partner at the end of the 2012 – with work due to start early the following year.

As well as upgrading the Island's road and pavement network, the PFI will include all street cleansing, street lighting and street furniture (including road signs), CCTV systems and also roadside verge maintenance.

Highways' PFI – the facts

In the build up to the scheme, the council is keen to clarify the range of benefits and opportunities for local business.

Three recent public meetings were held as part of this, as well as a live question and answer session via the council's Facebook page.

There are a number of points the council is keen to get across, as there remain misconceptions about the project:

- The money given by the government for the highways' PFI project is £260 million at today's prices – but its value will be far in excess of that by the end of the 25 year PFI programme. This money is a government grant – it does not have to be repaid.
- The council will also make an annual payment to the PFI contractor to cover the services currently provided by the council, that will in future be included in the contract. This money is broadly what is already spent on the services. However, because this contribution will support a brand new single contract, the council will get better value for money from this spend. The current value of this contribution is around £8.3 million (though the council is seeking to reduce the amount as part of the negotiations with potential partners), and it will be linked to inflation.
- The contract period is for 25 years. Because it covers such a long period, the council is making sure the deal represents best value for money and also brings the maximum benefit to the local economy.
- Throughout the contract, the selected PFI partner will have to prove they are offering best value for money. There will be scope within the contract to alter the terms to reflect unexpected changes in the market or economy.
- The PFI project is the only way the council could ever attract the vast amount of money required to carry out such a comprehensive improvement of the highways' network.
- While the amount of money initially earmarked for the Island was reduced by the government from £360 million, the amount available will still enable every stretch of public highway currently in use to be upgraded and maintained for 25 years. Each stretch of highway will be treated at least once during the 25 years of the scheme, and the busier the road, the higher the specification of the work.

Driving the Island's recovery

The Isle of Wight Council has been playing a key role in promoting the local economy as it emerges from testing times. Here we look at some of the major projects it has been supporting – particularly in the renewable energy sector

"We are encouraging economic growth while promoting the green agenda"

Economy and environment director, Stuart Love

Along with other local authorities up and down the country, the Isle of Wight Council has been experiencing first hand the reality of running services for residents on a far tighter budget.

But, within its range of duties, the council has remained determined to take positive steps to continue to support and promote the local economy. These range from the £260 million highways' private finance initiative (PFI), to ensuring the Island is well positioned to benefit from the next generation of superfast broadband.

Council strategic director for the economy and environment, Stuart Love, said: "We are involved in a wide range of projects as part of our responsibility to the Island's economy, particularly focusing on the vision of encouraging economic growth while promoting the green agenda.

"We have a supportive and guiding role behind many of these projects, working with major companies on large scale initiatives, and also enhancing links on behalf of local industry and commerce."

Highways' PFI

The council has been working to ensure the Island has a skilled workforce ready to respond to the requirements of the major highways' PFI project *(see feature on opposite page)*. The winning bidder will be expected to have a low carbon footprint – which will put local companies, services and labour in prime position to get involved.

Vestas research and development

The council has been involved in the planning processes for the building of the new Vestas research and development facility in Stag Lane, Newport, working closely with the company on various aspects of the project. The facility is due to officially open later this year, providing jobs for 260 people.

Solar energy project

Help has been given to Kronos Solar with its development of a five megawatt solar park near Porchfield, due to be officially opened in July. The site, on low quality agricultural land, will feed directly into the National Grid, and provide enough power for 4,500 people.

Offshore wind park

The council has been working with Eneco, the firm appointed by the Crown Estate to develop a major offshore wind farm eight miles off the west coast of the Island. It is planned the wind farm will eventually generate enough power for 615,000 to 820,000 homes.

Broadband UK

An expression of interest has been submitted by the council to Broadband UK, as a first stage towards opening up the Island to the next generation of superfast broadband.

Strengthening local business links

A successful business breakfast was staged at Cowes Yacht Haven in May, attended by 65 representatives of Island business – with a view to forging stronger links with the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership. The council has been actively involved with the creation of the partnership, along with colleagues in the Southampton and Portsmouth areas. The event was organised by the council and promoted by the Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Small Businesses.

Channel 4 doctor speaks at Island conference

Pictured *(left to right)*: Dr Patrick Wills, public health commissioning manager Sarah Stringer, Channel 4's Dr Radha Modgil and consultant nurse Felicity Young

More than 70 health and social care professionals working on the Island attended the Island's 2011 Annual Sexual Health Conference. They were joined by Dr Radha Modgil from Channel 4's *The Sex Education Show* who spoke about the show and the importance of sex education.

Island GP and sexual health specialist, Dr Patrick Wills, said: "This annual event is an important opportunity for everyone involved in providing sexual health services on the Island to improve their understanding of current issues and share good practice."

New ambulances take to Island roads

Pictured *(left to right)*: Ambulance operations manager Keith Morey and transport manager Graham Warren receive the new ambulance keys from chief operating officer Karen Baker

Four new emergency ambulances have been handed over to the Island's top-performing ambulance service. Emergency ambulances travel about 40,000 miles a year and are kept in service on the Island for about five years. The new ambulances, which cost £158,000 each, are Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 519CDI vehicles with an ambulance conversion.

Chris Smith, head of the ambulance service, said: "Staff throughout the service have been working very hard and are very committed and dedicated to patient care. It's important that we have high performance emergency ambulances to enable our staff to deliver the excellent response times Islanders have enjoyed in recent years. These four new ambulances are welcome additions to our fleet of vehicles."

Where the little things make a difference...

The Mottistone private patient unit has a ten-bedded inpatient area with single, en suite rooms and an outpatient area with 3 consulting rooms and a minor treatment room.

The Mottistone offers a range of clinical specialties with 34 consultants providing excellent personalised clinical care to patients on an individual basis, supported by a team of skilled nursing and administrative staff.

The Mottistone benefits from being on the same site as St Mary's Hospital as this gives access to all the facilities of a large hospital, including 6 operating theatres, an Intensive Care Unit, Pathology and Radiology.

Recent clinical audits show that there have been no cases of healthcare associated infection in the Mottistone in the past year.

In addition to excellent clinical care The Mottistone provides the following:-

- An extensive menu with meals prepared by the Mottistone chef
- Daily newspapers
- Television and radio in all rooms
- Unlimited visiting

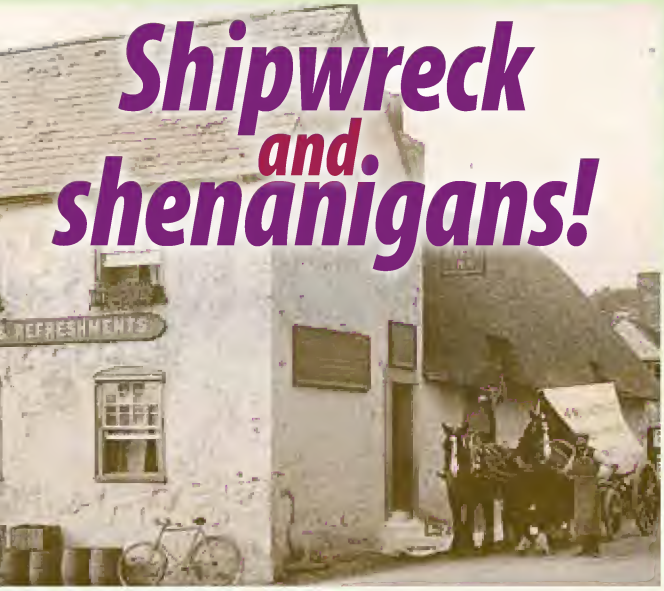
The Mottistone provides medical care for patients who have private health insurance and also for patients who wish to pay for their health care. The Mottistone can offer fixed price, all inclusive packages for many types of operation.

Mottistone
The island's private healthcare provider

The Mottistone, St Mary's Hospital, Parkhurst Road
Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5TG

For more information please call...
Mottistone reception 01983 526699
E-mail Mottistone@iow.nhs.uk

Shipwreck and shenanigans!



An historic link with Bermuda, one of the Isle of Wight's fellow competing islands in this month's NatWest Island Games, has been recalled by the County Record Office at Newport.

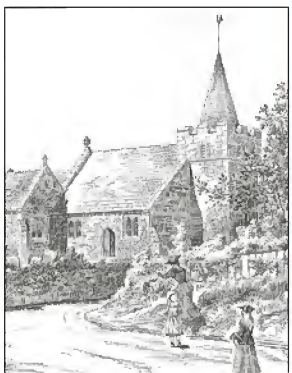
In April 1862 a boat, the Cedrine, sailing from Bermuda to Portsmouth was wrecked on Brighstone Ledge – the captain having mistaken the Island for low cloud.

All 234 people on board, including 191 ex-convicts returning from a short sentence of transportation to Bermuda, were rescued – with locals including vicar, the Rev Pellew Gaze, commended for gallantry.

Unfortunately, the records show that many of the former convicts celebrated their rescue with rather too much enthusiasm in the two public houses in Brighstone village. As a result there were skirmishes in the village street – and troops stationed at Parkhurst were sent across the Island to restore order.

Bermuda was famous for its cedar timber. The Cedrine was a new boat made from the wood, and some of its timbers were used in restoration work carried out at Mottistone Church at the time.

Pictured: The Five Bells Inn (top) and the New Inn at Brighstone (above), the two inns involved in the disturbance
Below: An illustration depicting Mottistone Church



Seen from the Island's high points, like St Catherine's Down or the Wroxall Horseshoe, the colours of the Island's countryside patchwork quilt are changing. Gone are the spring's fresh lime greens, set against the rich brown shades of the soil. By midsummer, the woodlands have taken on deeper green hues and crops are ripening to straw yellow, with occasional bright red splashes of poppies making a startling contrast.

The corners and broad headlands of arable fields benefit wildlife greatly. Wild flowers attract nectar-feeding insects, including bumble bees and hoverflies. Their eggs develop into larvae which feed on aphids and other crop pests. Birds like grey partridges, linnets and yellowhammers benefit from the rich variety of insects to feed their chicks. Voles and other small mammals thrive, and in turn their presence makes the headlands ideal hunting habitat for barn owls and kestrels.

Many rare plants are now confined to the edges of arable fields, their seed lying dormant for many years before ploughing brings it nearer the surface where it can germinate. Corn marigolds *(pictured above)* and cornflowers are easily seen but a closer look is needed to find weasel snout, corn chamomile, and sharp-leaved fluellen. A rare Island speciality, field cow-wheat, has flamboyant purple and yellow flowers. In former times this plant was called 'poverty weed' and people were employed to pull it up from cereal fields because its seed contaminated flour and made it taste bitter. Nowadays, it is confined to a few sites on the Undercliff, well way from food crops.

Anne Marston, assistant ecology officer

Seasonal guide to wildlife in your garden

It's the time of year to enjoy sitting out in the garden to view the wildlife it attracts. Butterflies and moths are on the wing and are attracted to nectar-rich plants such as marjoram, lavender *(pictured)* and buddleia. The Big Butterfly Count is coming up from 16 to 31 July – see *www.bigbutterflycount.org* for details of how to join in.

Birds, meanwhile, are busy feeding their rapidly growing young on aphids, caterpillars and other insect pest larvae collected from garden plants, so it's best to avoid spraying them at the moment. The adult birds will appreciate a supply of fresh water in hot weather.

ACTIVITIES

Hear to Meet Walk
(26 June)
The Royal National Institute for Deaf People, three-mile fund raising walk along the old railway, Western Yar estuary to End of the Line Café, 2pm, Yarmouth car park, for registration/ sponsorship forms, tel: 529533.

Calbourne Gardens Open
(26 June)
Fourteen private gardens open to the public, Calbourne village, 11am to 5pm, lunches/teas in the village hall.

Big Garden Tea Party
(26 June)
For Naomi House Children's Hospice, at Stratton, Sandown Road, Shanklin, 2pm, contact Mrs Daryl Kirby, tel: 866868.

Open Evening
(29 June, 23 August)
Find out about courses for school-leavers starting in September, and part-time courses for adults, Isle of Wight College and F6rm, Newport, 4pm to 8pm.

Royal Victorian Ryde 2011
(1-3 July)
Three days of events celebrating the 175th anniversary of the Royal Victoria Arcade, Union Street, Ryde, including 19th century nautical melodrama, international harpist, old time variety theatre and grand gala evening, tickets and programme from SPLASH jewellery, Union Street, tel: 616257 or 07855 102946.

Craft Fair
(23 July)
All items handcrafted by local people, Town Lane Hall, Newport, 10am to 3.30pm, entry free.

EXHIBITIONS

Fire and Fantasy
(7-19 July)
Exhibition of paintings and prints, imaginative pictures in strong colours, the development of volcanoes often used in backgrounds, Quarr Abbey Gallery, Ryde, 10.30am to 4.30pm.

Open Workshop Weekend, Andrew Dowden Ceramic Designs
(15-17 July)
Handmade and hand-carved contemporary ceramic forms and wall panels, at 29 Ventnor Road, Apse Heath, 10am to 8pm (Friday 15 July), 10am to 1pm (Saturday 16 July), 10am to 5pm (Sunday 17 July), free entry, tel: 867505.

Isle of Wight Arts Open Studios
(15-18, 22-25 July)
Island artists open their studios and homes to visitors, south and west of the Island (15-18 July), north, east and central (22-25 July), each venue open 10am to 5pm, brochure from most libraries and galleries, or online at *isleofwightarts.com*

Ventnor Botanical Artists' annual summer exhibition
(23-31 July)
Paintings by the only botanical art group on the Island, mounted and framed and for sale as cards, Ventnor Botanic Garden, 10am to 5pm.

Bembridge Art Society annual exhibition
(7-13 August)
At Bembridge Village Hall, 9.30am to 5pm.

Rhythm, Form and Fire
(1-2 October)
Innovative exhibition of hand-carved ceramics, by Andrew Dowden, hand-

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For more details contact the council's fostering and adoption service on 01983 566011 or visit *www.iwight.com/fostering*

ISLE of WIGHT COUNCIL

The 175th anniversary of Royal Victoria Arcade, Ryde will be celebrated with a variety of events from 1 to 3 July

sculpted glass by Paul Critchley, Ventnor Botanic Garden, 10am to 5pm, free entry.

FAIRS & SHOWS

Chillerton Flower Show
(30 July)
Traditional village show with horticultural marquee, craft stalls, side shows, homemade refreshments, Sheat Manor, Chillerton, 2pm to 5pm.

RSPCA Gala Day
(31 July)
Gala day for the Isle of Wight branch of the RSPCA, dog show, dog agility and displays, many stalls, Isle of Wight Youth Band, refreshments, raffle, at Animal Centre, Bohemia Corner, Godshill, 11am to 4pm, admission £4.

Jigsaw Puzzle Festival
(8-13 August)
Hundreds of jigsaw puzzles on display and for sale, St James' Church, Church Path, East Cowes, 10am to 4pm (6.30pm to 8.30pm on Wednesday and Thursday evenings), admission adults £1.50, accompanied children free.

Bonchurch Summer Fete
(16 August)
Cream teas, cake stall, raffle, tombola, children's games, books, at Bonchurch Hall, 2pm to 4pm, entry £1 to include tea/coffee and biscuits, proceeds to church buildings and the Ghana boxes.

Classic Car Extravaganza
(17-18 September)
See more than 600 vehicles, Newport Quay (17 September), Ryde Esplanade (18 September).

MEETINGS

Isle of Wight branch of the British Cactus and Succulent Society
(monthly)
Meeting on the second Saturday each month, Church Close Community Centre, Wootton, 7pm to 10pm.

Vectis branch of the Submariners' Association
(monthly)
Meeting on the fourth Wednesday in each month, Camp Hill Prison Officers' Club, Newport, 7.30pm.

Isle of Wight Orchid Society
(monthly)
Meeting on the third Monday in each month, Riverside Centre, Newport, 7.30pm.

Sandown Bay Diabetes Support Group
(monthly)
Meeting on the third Thursday each month, informative talks by medical professionals and discussions on matters relating to diabetes, Methodist Church Hall, York Road, Sandown, 7.30pm, contact Sharon Merrick, tel: 400336.

British Airways Retired Staff Association
(monthly)
Meeting on the third Wednesday each month, coffee morning, the White Lion, Arreton, 11am.

MUSIC

St Alban's Day Patronal Festival
(26 June)
Guest preacher Mother Rita Elizabeth of the Anglican Sisters of Bethany (at 10am), festival evensong (4pm), at St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor.

Spies, Scoundrels, Sirens and Scholars
(9 July)
Popular keyboard music in England from 1600 to 1700, recital by Jo West, in aid of the Ghana Fund, St Catherine's Church, Ventnor, 7.30pm, tickets £8 (children £3), to book tel: 852722 or 730930.

Cowes Concert Band
(11 July)
At Holy Trinity Church, Ryde, 8pm, admission free, raffle and refreshments, to raise funds for the church and band.

Wolverton Manor Concerts
(16 July)
Concert in aid of Sistema Scotland, which believes children can benefit by playing in a symphony orchestra, at Wolverton Manor, Shorwell, 7.30pm, tickets £15, details from *www.wolvertonmanor.com*

Newchurch Male Voice Choir Concert
(26 July)
Evening of music and song with invited guests, St Peter's Church, Havenstreet, 7.30pm.

Arcadia Beckons
(27 July)
Concert of words and music for a summer evening, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor, 7.30pm, free admission, interval refreshments, retiring collection.

V-Dub Island
(19-21 August)
Festival weekend for VW owners and enthusiasts, live music, VW competitions, driveout throughout the Island, guided walks, tree-climbing, many displays, at the County Showground, Northwood, website: *www.v-dubisland.com*

Betjeman's Birthday Party
(28 August)
Choral evensong, commemorative tea and talk on the poet's life and work, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor, 4pm.

Newchurch Male Voice Choir Concert
(17 September)
Joint concert with Northampton Male Voice Choir, St John's Church, Sandown, 7.30pm.

Wolverton Manor Concerts
(12 October)
Performance in aid of Leukaemia Research, by the Camerata Choir, Wolverton Manor, Shorwell, 7.30pm, tickets £15, details from *www.wolvertonmanor.com*

Newchurch Male Voice Choir Concert
(13 October)
Evening of singing with guest soloists, George Street Centre, Ryde, 7.30pm.

TALKS

Richard Trevithick – early locomotive inventor
(5 October)
A talk to the Isle of Wight branch of the Historical Association, by Dr Robin Smith, at the Parish Centre, Town Lane, Newport, 7.30pm, contact Terry Blunden, tel: 524410.

I am a genius: artistic identity and the artists' changing status
(13 October)
Decorative and fine arts society lecture by Linda Smith, Medina Theatre, Newport, lecture 8pm, visitors £6, students £2, pay on the door, contact Judith Hook, tel: 854322.

THEATRE

Earth, Fire and Water – Legends of the Island
(1-2 July)
Bonchurch Theatre Company presents a show at Northcourt, Shorwell, 6.45pm, gates open from 6pm, bring a picnic, if wet play will be staged in the manor, tickets £10 (concessions £8), to book tel: 730930.

Much Ado About Nothing
(4-5 August)
International Theatre Set Up's 35th visit to the Isle of Wight, for a professional open air theatre performance (regardless of weather), at Ventnor Botanic Garden, 7.30pm, bring rugs, folding chairs, picnics, refreshments available, tickets £12 adults, concessions £10, under 16s £6, tickets from Waterstones, Newport and Ventnor Jazz Office, also online.

These listings are provided free, as a public information service. Details must be submitted either by: **filling out this form, or emailing your details to *oneisland@iow.gov.uk***

Please conform to the format shown. Entries are included at the editorial team's discretion. Next scheduled edition: 30 September (listings for period 30 September to 31 December).

Title of event/activity: _____

Date: _____

Brief description: _____

Venue: _____

Time: _____

Contact name: _____

Telephone: _____

Please return ***(by 2 September)*** *to:* **Time & Place, One Island, Resident Information and Consultation Unit, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD or email to** *oneisland@iow.gov.uk*

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